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NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Majority prices were unchanged in the East and West, but higher in the Midwest when compared to a week earlier. Trade sentiment was steady to instances firm in the Midwest; mostly steady elsewhere. Retail demand was slow to moderate with limited features reported. Food service was mixed, but active in fast food outlets. Supplies were balanced to well cleared, particularly smaller sizes. In the parts structure, breast items were well cleared to short. Wings were mixed with smaller cuts in the best position, and dark meat was fully adequate to available. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at weights in a full range.

Preliminary report of prices negotiated for trucklot sales of ready-to-cook broiler/fryers fob and delivered to first receivers at major market areas week of 03/22/04-03/26/04 (cents per lb)

US GRADE A

(Including branded product)

AREAS	MAJORITY	RANGE	WTD AVG	LOADS
Delivered to First Receivers				
Chicago	71.00-74.00	69.50-81.00	73.24	28
Los Angeles	78.00			
New York	75.00-77.00			
Southeast Area	FOB Dock Equivalent			
Mississippi	72.50-74.25	70.00-77.00	73.78	79

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for this week's trading is 73.25 cents based on ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds.

PRELIMINARY FOB DOCK OR EQUIVALENT

LOADS	RANGE	FRIDAY PRELIM. WTD. AVG.
868	69.00-76.50	73.23

Georgia f.o.b. dock confirmed preliminary weighted average price on ice packed parts:

ITEM	WTD. AVG. (CENTS PER POUND)	VOLUME (000 POUNDS)
LINE RUN TENDERS	238.50	1,204
BREASTS - B/S	213.50	5,294
BREASTS - WHOLE	112.50	1,759
THIGH MEAT - B/S	117.50	997
LEG QUARTERS	34.50	7,431
WINGS	127.50	2,882

This information is supplied by the Georgia Department of Agriculture's Poultry Market News Service.

MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Preliminary majority prices for next weeks' deliveries into the Chicago area moved 2 cents higher. The market tone on whole broiler/fryers remained mostly steady, instances fully steady to firm. Buyer interest and producer offerings were matched; very light for the most part. Movement into all channels was slow to moderate at best. Floor stocks were in a full range, mostly balanced. Weights were in a desirable range. Parts trade was generally inactive as current commitment satisfied needs. Breast item supplies continued snug while dark meat parts were fully adequate to ample. The market tone was steady to firm on white meat cuts and cautiously steady to weak on leg items.

SOUTHERN BROILER Trade sentiment was steady in the East and West, but trending higher in the Midwest. Demand was moderate with fast food having the best activity. Supplies were sufficient but clearing. In the parts structure, breast items were barely adequate to tight of a continuously active call. Dark meat was readily available with limited interest, wings were adequate but moving. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mostly desirable weights.

WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Preliminary majority prices unchanged from last week's levels. The market tone was steady with trading reported on whole body product for next week's deliveries at mainly unchanged prices. Offerings adequate. Retailer demand fair to fairly good best for parts and to cover feature activities. Dealers anticipated satisfactory weekend clearances. Trade sentiment was firm on breasts, barely steady on dark meat and steady on wings.

Ads noted (per pound unless otherwise stated):

Colorado – Cornish hens 125, boneless breast 299-329, boneless breast seasoned 399, boneless breast 4# bagged IQF 1099, boneless breast tenders 399, boneless thighs meat 199, thigh 99, drumstick 99, leg quarters 79, chicken sausage 77,

(deli food service – fried 8 piece mixed 399, hot wings 449 per pound);

Idaho – boneless breast 299-349, boneless breast 4# bagged IQF 799, boneless breast marinated 399, boneless breast tenders 349, boneless breast tenders 2.5# bagged 799, split breast 149,

(deli food service – whole rotisserie 499 each);

Northern California – whole body buy one get one free, whole cut-up 149, boneless breast fillets 399, split breast 139-199, boneless thigh meat 299, whole legs 169;

Southern California – whole body 99, whole cut-up 138-149, roaster 149, boneless breast 177-267, boneless breast marinated 177, boneless breast marinated pieces 98, boneless leg meat 99-157, split breast 99, whole leg 99, leg quarters 40# case 1999, leg quarters 10# bagged 290-390, thighs 89-169, thigh 3# bagged IQF 399, drumstick 49-169, drumstick 3# bagged IQF 399,

(deli food service - fried 8 piece drumstick and thigh 298, 15 piece drumstick and thigh 499, whole rotisserie chicken each 399- 499, popcorn chicken 349 per pound).

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYERS Trucklot buying interest on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was mostly moderate entering the weekend. Offerings of the 2.5 to 3 pound birds remained in good balance and the 3.5 to 4 pound birds were at least sufficient. Retail and distributive movement was about fair. The market tone was fully steady on the 3 pound and lighter birds and about steady on the balance. In the parts complex, breast items and tenderloins remained tight. Dark meat cuts were at least adequate to available. Wings were balanced.

DELMARVA BROILER/FRYERS Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds increased entering the weekend and was fair to good overall. Seller offerings continued to differ by size and were adequate to instances short. Live supplies were mostly moderate; weights were irregular. Processor schedules were moderate to light. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 76 to 87 cents. Trade sentiment was steady. In the parts complex, breast cuts continued to clear well. Leg cuts were available; however, sellers generally noted little need to discount offerings to stimulate activity. Wings were at least adequate.

Mov*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA.

BRANDED U.S. GRADE A

RANGE	61-89
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	76.24
NO. OF BOXES	7,156
CUMULATIVE	03/15/04-03/19/04 77.55
	03/17/03-03/21/03 56.82
NO. OF BOXES	03/15/04-03/19/04 35,269
	03/17/03-03/21/03 37,666

*7 of 7 plants reporting.

MAR 18

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

MAR 19

ITEM	POUNDS				POUNDS				WEEKLY	
	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	(000)	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	858	198.00-279.00	205-215	215.60	468	198.00-279.00	205-215	218.47	3,894	212.98
TENDERLOINS	181	230.00-273.00	230-234	236.92	183	232.00-273.00	232-234	237.67	986	238.62
BREAST - LINE RUN	81	105.00-113.00	105-107	106.48	TOO FEW SALES TO REPORT				391	107.10
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW SALES TO REPORT				TOO FEW SALES TO REPORT				213	106.29
LEGS	88	41.00-58.00	41-43	42.55	88	41.00-60.00	41-43	42.73	439	42.98
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	588	30.00-33.00	-	30.76	768	31.00-34.00	-	31.88	3,132	31.03
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	835	32.00-35.00	-	34.02	925	33.00-38.00	34-35	34.84	4,385	34.35
WINGS (WHOLE)	298	125.00-142.00	125-130	130.64	293	122.00-130.00	125-130	128.05	1,472	127.08
WINGS (CUT)	579	135.00-144.00	135-139	137.93	624	135.00-142.00	135-139	137.58	2,694	138.64
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW SALES TO REPORT				TOO FEW SALES TO REPORT				71	59.39
THIGHS	TOO FEW SALES TO REPORT				TOO FEW SALES TO REPORT				140	55.66
B/S THIGHS	102	102.00-123.00	-	118.27	102	102.00-122.00	-	114.75	519	117.95

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS										
TRADING FOR MARCH 18, 2004 F.O.B. DOCK.										

RANGE**TODAY'S AVERAGE****RANGE****TODAY'S AVERAGE****5-DAY AVERAGE**

67.00 - 73.50

69.05

65.00 - 74.50

68.11

68.51

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS - Trucklot buying activity ranged fair to fairly good entering the weekend. Offerings of breast items and tenderloins remained tight and were clearing with premiums noted. Boneless-skinless thighs were available and the balance of dark meat items were at least adequate, but noted as manageable. Wings ranged adequate to balanced. Retail and distributive movement was fair to moderate. The market tone remained fully steady to firm on breast items and tenderloins, fully steady on wings and barely steady on dark meat cuts.

ICE PACKED B/F PARTS, DLVRD TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, CENTS PER LB. MAR 19

ITEM	CURRENT NEG			WTD	CURRENT NEG			WTD	WEEKLY
	TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS		TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS		
BREAST - B/S	210-215	206.25	578,307		215	200.32	599,589	200.49	3,267,770
TENDERLOINS	230	224.93	63,960		230-235	218.27	132,440	210.35	581,620
BREAST - WITH RIBS	111-112	115.21	131,920		111-112	114.63	148,800	113.78	616,546
BREAST - LINE RUN	111	113.02	85,800		111	112.83	82,240	111.50	471,120
LEGS	43-44	43.57	256,720		43-44	42.42	292,440	44.37	1,646,240
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	33-34	34.59	430,924		33-34	33.68	358,852	33.02	2,271,469
DRUMSTICKS	32-33	42.27	128,654		32-33	39.35	143,780	40.71	672,028
THIGHS	42-43	49.86	82,238		42-43	47.74	81,960	48.51	374,458
B/S THIGHS	114-115	115.63	54,120		112-113	108.61	118,640	111.82	382,500
WINGS (WHOLE)	116-117	125.85	92,120		116-117	124.34	108,720	124.38	649,440
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	11.92	30,440		10-12	12.11	36,680	11.94	162,080
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	35-40	35.73	14,280		35-40	36.20	12,520	35.45	74,560
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	60-65	63.57	17,840		60-65	64.68	23,920	63.46	115,000

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG). * TODAY'S NEG. SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

** WTD AVG PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPE, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	ESTIMATED		ACTUAL		AVG WT		ACTUAL		AVG WTS	
	03/19	03/18	03/17	03/16	03/17	03/16	03/12	03/10	03/10	03/10
ALA	4,021	3,929	3,737	3,767	5.21	5.32	4,154	5.20		
ARK	5,068	5,407	5,256	5,271	4.97	5.07	5,103	5.09		
DELMARVA	2,034	2,073	2,106	2,154	5.39	5.46	2,097	5.46		
KY-LA-TN	1,866	1,939	1,973	1,969	4.98	5.02	1,929	4.99		
MISS	2,813	3,012	3,043	3,095	5.44	5.14	2,600	5.32		
NC	2,550	2,457	2,430	2,427	6.45	6.48	2,003	6.35		
TEXAS	2,260	2,280	2,354	2,299	5.06	5.23	2,347	5.08		
TOTAL	20,612	21,097	20,899	20,982	5.31	5.34	20,233	5.32		
MON-FRI	105,790(A)				103,419(A)					

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above. Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 19-Mar 04 and 20-Mar-04 is estimated to be 30,838 ,000 up 1.57 percent from a week ago and up 1.5 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 30,362,000; last year 30,395,000)

Weekly broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for the weekending 20-Mar-04

is estimated to be 152,567,000 head down 3 percent from a week ago, and unchanged from a year ago.

www.ams.usda.gov/marketnews.htm

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY, DELIVERED TO RETAILERS

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	93-99
ROASTERS 4# & UP	95-105
HENS UNDER 5#	
HENS OVER 5#	71-77
DUCKS	
RABBITS-WHOLE	
RABBITS-CUT UP	

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	104-106
DRY PACK	
ICE PACK	102-103
ROASTERS 4# & UP	105
DRY PACK	
ICE PACK	109
HENS OVER 5#	93
ICE PACK	
DRY PACK	93-95
DUCKS	152-175

YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED Under federal inspection, classified by live wt., week ending 06-Mar-04 (Preliminary),

	(A) Fast food/ Food service	(B) Retail	(C) Deboning
	4.20 Lbs & down	4.21-5.25 Lbs	5.26 Lbs & Up
	-----THOUSANDS-----		
Head	25,738	21,046	49,219
Avg Weight	3.80	4.72	6.93
% of total /1	27%	22%	51%

COMPARISONS

Last week	30,710	21,166	49,163
Avg Weight	3.61	4.78	6.31
% of total /1	30%	21%	49%
Same week, yr ago /2	21,171	20,312	47,467
Avg Weight	3.72	4.85	6.47
% of total /1	24%	23%	53%

To date/2004	227,293	191,472	383,146
To date/2003	205,970	186,349	390,357

/1 May not total to 100% due to rounding. /2 Comparable week.

(A) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the fast food and food service industries. May also include cornish hens.

(B) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the retail industry.

(C) This weight class generally denotes chickens used in further processing. May also include heavy roasters sold in retail channels.

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION W/E 13-Mar-04 (PRELIMINARY)

	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS	DUCKS
	-----THOUSANDS-----				
HEAD	157,179	1,344	1,165	2,509	487
AVG WT	5.06	3.43	8.15	5.62	6.69
LAST WEEK	153,459	1,129	1,250	2,379	440
SAME WK YR AGO	151,337	1,558	1,356	2,914	425
AVG WT	5.23	3.49	8.18	5.5	6.2
TO-DATE/2004	1,536,632	12,737	12,646	25,383	4,568
TO-DATE/2003	1,502,010	16,627	13,644	30,271	4,204

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 157.0 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 159.1 million head or 2.1 million head more than or 101% of estimated fryers available.

GRAYSTONE SMALL ANIMAL AUCTION - MARCH 16, 2004

PRICES PAID PER POUND, EXCEPT AS NOTED

AI PAPERS REQUIRED TO SELL ALL OUT OF STATE POULTRY

	RANGE		RANGE
Muscovy Ducks - Drakes	1.00	Banty Hens	2.00 - 2.75 ea.
Muscovy Ducks - Hens	1.00 - 1.05	Pigeons	5.00 - 5.35 ea.
Pekin Ducks	2.50 - 2.75 ea.	Rabbits	
Red Fowl 4-5 LBS	.30 - .40	4-6 LBS	1.30 - 1.40
Red Fowl 5-6 LBS	.40 - .70	Rabbits	
Crossbred Fowl 5-9 LBS	.70 - .80	6-9 LBS	1.10 - 1.20
Crossbred Roosters		Bunnies	6.00 - 9.00 ea.
4-6 LBS	.70 - .80	Guinea Pigs	2.50 - 5.00 ea.
Guinea Fowl	2.00 - 2.10 ea.	Goats	75.00 - 105.00 ea.
Banty Roosters	3.50 - 4.50 ea.	Pullets 4-6 LBS	.75 - .80

Total Coops Sold 140

EASTERN REGION MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY

FOR CURRENT DELIVERY FOR THE WEEK OF 15-MAR-2003

DUCKLINGS: PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A, 4-5 POUNDS, DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
LONG ISLAND	137-140	144-146
MOSTLY		
MIDWEST	124-128	125-130
MOSTLY		

ROASTERS: PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 POUNDS AND UP, DELIVERED

	RANGE	MOSTLY
ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	76.00-77.50	76.00-77.50
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	65.00-85.50	67.00-75.00

SQUABS: NEW YORK AREA WHOLESALE PRICES, FROZEN, PLANT GRADE, DOLLARS PER DOZEN, 1 TO 10 BOXES

12 OZ.	60.48-71.28
14 OZ.	66.96-77.92
16 OZ.	73.44-86.67

THE EASTERN REGION INCLUDES:

CT,DE,FL,GA,MA,MD,ME,NC,NH,NJ,NY,PA RI,SC,VA,VT,WV

CENTRAL REGION DUCKLINGS Prices remained unchanged. Trade sentiment steady. Demand was moderate to instances good. Schedules full-time. Weights were desirable. Prices paid to first receivers for 10-18oz boneless breast at \$4.25-5.25, bone in legs at \$1.35-1.45, gizzards at \$1.35-1.40, wings at \$0.30-0.50, livers at \$0.75-1.70, and feet at \$0.80-1.15.

NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS FOR US GRADE A DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, 4-5 POUNDS, WEEK OF 15-MAR-2003

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
MIDWEST AND OTHERS	107-124	125
MOSTLY		

ESTIMATED U.S. SLAUGHTER COMPARED TO**ESTIMATED FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING.**

COSTS OF PRODUCTION - FARMER'S OWN MILK, COWS REGISTERED					
		MILLION HEAD	MILLION HEAD		
WEEK ENDING		SLAUGHTERED	AVAILABLE	PCT	AVG WT
FEBRUARY	7	155.7	159.1	98%	5.22
	14	154.4	158.5	97%	5.16
	21	154.1	157.7	98%	5.05
	28	154.6	156.8	99%	5.17
MARCH	6	155.3	156.2	99%	5.41
	13	159.1	157	101%	5.06
YEAR TO DATE		1400.1	1412.3	99%	
MARCH	20		158.6		
	27		158.0		

BROILER/CATTLE/HOG WEEKLY ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER

	Under Federal Inspection				
	-----THOUSANDS-----				
W/E	03/20/04	03/13/04	% CHG	03/21/03	% CHG
Broilers	152,567	157,179*	-03	153,022*	0
Cattle	619	630	-02	658	-06
Hogs	1,940	1,938	0	1,928	+01
*ACTUAL					

NATIONAL CANNER FOWL MARKET Majority prices were generally unchanged on both light and heavy canners when compared to a week earlier. Demand was moderate to at least moderate on lights; fair to moderate on heavies. Trading was light to fair on heavy canners. Available offerings were clearing satisfactorily. Processing schedules were normal. The undertone was at least steady on light canners; steady to at least steady on heavies.

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT FREIGHT COST

LIGHT CANNER HENS**(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)**

22-30.5 MAJORITY 25-26

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED

LIGHT CANNER HENS**(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)**

25-32 MAJORITY 27-27.5

HEAVY CANNER HENS**(WITHOUT NECKS)**

31.5-37.5 MAJORITY 34-35

HEAVY CANNER HENS**(WITHOUT NECKS)**

32.5-39 MAJORITY 36.5-37.5

LIGHT TYPE HENS

CENTS PER HEAD, GENERALLY FOR REMOVAL WITHIN THE NEXT 10 DAYS (INCLUDES HANDLING, FREIGHT AND ANY OTHER CHARGES, WEIGHTS AVERAGE ABOUT 3.50 POUNDS)

EASTERN REGION LIGHT LIVE HEN Majority values were unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Demand was fair to moderate. Offerings of spent fowl were generally sufficient for trade needs. Processing schedules were mostly normal. Opinions on removal cost were steady.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
REMOVAL COST	0-12	9-11

SOUTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Trading was generally unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Demand was moderate for usually adequate offerings of spent hens. Finished sales were fair. Schedules were normal. Trade sentiment was at least steady.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
REMOVAL COST	TOO FEW TO REPORT	

NORTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Removal prices were unchanged to slightly higher. Offerings were adequate with demand light to moderate. Opinions of value were generally steady.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
REMOVAL COST	7-10	7-8

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) *

PRELIMINARY PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 22-MAR-04

SOUTHEAST HEAVY LIVE HEN Sales were too few to report prices. Demand was at least moderate. Offerings were generally adequate to at least adequate. Processing schedules were mostly normal. Supplies of finished product were clearing satisfactorily. The undertone was at least steady.

RANGE	MAJORITY
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT
AT FARM PRODUCER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT
FOB PLANT	TOO FEW TO REPORT

SOUTH CENTRAL LIVE HEAVY-TYPE HENS Trading was generally unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Demand was moderate for usually adequate offerings of spent hens. Finished sales were fair. Schedules were normal. Trade sentiment was at least steady.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT	

* WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

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WEST COAST LIGHT LIVE HEN Plant schedules moderate. Offerings adequate.